

The
Planet Neptune



ELIZABETH ALDRICH

100
47
9/78

CLOSED CO

UNITY LIBRARY & ARCHIVES
The planet Neptune
CLOSED BF 1711 .A35



0 0051 0019576 7



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2026

THE PLANET NEPTUNE



Photo by Frances Geisler

ELIZABETH ALDRICH

The Planet Neptune

BY

ELIZABETH ALDRICH

*Author of "The Mechanics of
Progression," "The Satellitium"*

NEW YORK

MACOY PUBLISHING AND MASONIC
SUPPLY COMPANY

1928

COPYRIGHT, 1928
BY ELIZABETH ALDRICH

BF
1711
A35
C 1

TO MY FRIEND

CHARLES E. O. CARTER

*President of the Astrological Lodge of
London*

CONTENTS

	PAGE
--	------

NEPTUNE DENIES ITSELF	1
---------------------------------	---

CHAPTER TWO

ANALYSIS OF NEPTUNE	14
-------------------------------	----

CHAPTER THREE

NEPTUNE IN PROGRESSION AND TRANSIT . .	36
--	----

CHAPTER FOUR

NEPTUNE THE SPIRAL	41
------------------------------	----

PREFACE

IT has been said that a good wine needs no bush, and that a good play needs no epilogue. Therefore we may say a good book needs no preface. Perhaps this little book may bring what its author wishes it to bring, LIGHT. For it is to more light that we must look in all fields of human knowledge.

I have tried to follow a method of philosophical consideration in this work, and aim to avoid all cant, and meaningless words. I can only ask that all who have Neptune well placed in their horoscope try to test out the ideas and theories which I have advanced here, for it is only as ideas are used that they become of practical worth.

ELIZABETH ALDRICH

New York, May 10, 1928.

“All is impermanent in man except the pure bright essence of Alaya. Man is its crystal ray; a beam of light immaculate within a form of clay material upon the lower surface.”

The Voice of the Silence,

Translated by H. P. B.

The Planet Neptune

CHAPTER ONE

NEPTUNE DENIES ITSELF

TWENTY years ago the influence of Neptune in astrology was little understood, and often little heeded. In "*The Art of Synthesis*," by Alan Leo, there was a most valuable chapter on Neptune. Parts of this were contributed by one or two other students. It was then so little understood, and regarded in so tentative a way, that with great care these ideas on Neptune were advanced as pure theory and labeled unproved.

From my childhood I enjoyed a passion for astrology, and as a little girl owned

several books on what we now call the influence of the Sun Sign. Great was my delight, when I began to grow up, to find that this was not all there was to astrology, and to learn that the shining planets wove themselves into patterns of character and destiny, more varied and intricate than an oriental prayer rug.

And greater still was my joy when by chance a little paper volume fell into my hands, and I found the key to the horoscope. Thus the astrological chart and I began a lifelong friendship and companionship.

And so when I first began to study astrology Neptune was the "*Bête Noir*." Therefore, not understanding it, the students took the familiar line of denial. They said it "Didn't work." Then some one more daring than his fellows, perhaps Alan Leo himself, said it worked "only with highly spiritual souls."

Being naturally of an investigative and daring turn of mind, I questioned this. How could it be that any planet did not work? Thus I began to study and investigate Neptune, the most illusive, tricky, spritelike will-o-the-wisp that ever twinkled in the sky. And so this chapter in "*The Art of Synthesis*" was the first real information which I found in print.

This brings me to the point at which I wish to begin my description of Neptune. The student can best get an idea of what I mean if I say that Neptune denies itself, and that it makes the real seem unreal. We see how baffled students have been up to a few years ago by this planet, and the planet denied itself! Anomaly of anomalies, how the spirit of Neptune must have laughed and mocked where it floated, as astrologers tied themselves up in its influence, and wandered in its mystic mazes, while confidently proclaiming its nullity,

its ineffective rays, and its powerless character!

From birth to death Neptune is one of the mightiest influences in every horoscope. Far from working only in the nativity of advanced souls, it is one of the strongest factors in the horoscopes of criminals and defectives. It is also one of the greatest weapons with which the financier, the multimillionaire and the financial kings of the earth manipulate and control. And more than this, it is the two-edged sword of the polished diplomat, the inspiration of the actress, and the vainglorious dream of the self-deceiver.

Since my good friend Mr. Charles Carter began to publish his books, a great deal of interesting material has come to light on the question of this far-away star. In his "*Encyclopaedia*" there is a vast fund of information about Neptune. But it is scattered through the whole work, and

many people have not the patience, or the studious instinct, to dig in this mine of wealth. I feel that if any student took the book, and copied out the number of times the word Neptune is mentioned, and put this work together, we should have a fairly comprehensive study of the tricky wanderer.

Then, too, Helen Robbins has done good work, in her book "*The Activities of Uranus and Neptune.*" Her idea of the nature of these planets is very revealing. But I cannot agree with her, when she says that Neptune and Uranus have increased their activity in modern times, and as she says, since their discovery. I feel that, as Edwin Arnold has said of the spirit, "Never the planet was born,

The planet shall cease to be never;
Birthless and deathless, and changeless,
The planet endureth forever."

I have taken the liberty of substituting

“planet” here for “spirit,” in the original. There are other great sidereal influences at work in the world now, to account for the change in the times which she makes her main premise.

Of a certainty, Neptune must have been very active at the time of Christ, and the Christian religion, with its self-abnegation, secrecy of origin, and vicarious action is surely Neptunian. In fact, vicarious action is one of the greatest points about the vibration of Neptune. We all know how, when we become entangled in some impossible situation, we usually find that “Neptune did it.” When that happens which could not happen, which really and absolutely, common sense would say, never has happened, it is this influence. The vicarious quality of Neptune is seen in the situation, so often met with, in which *we are accused of having done the very thing*

that the other fellow did to us. And usually accused by the doer of the deed, himself.

Valentia Straiton, in her book "*The Celestial Ship of the North*," gives many uncommon, and hitherto unpublished, ideas for our use. And so we see that we astrologers are now hard after the planet.

In connection with the contention of Mrs. Robbins, and I understand, of quite a few English astrologers, we must note that the survey she makes, while convincing, is yet narrow in scope as to time, for what more Neptunian than the ancient mysteries, and the mysteries of Egypt in particular? And if we believe the Bible, Neptune was so active all through those times that it eclipsed even our present day demonstrations. Daniel in the lions' den, what was this but Neptune? David with a sling shot slaying Goliath, is Neptune again. All the weak who subdue the strong are influenced by this contradictory planet. In the in-

undations of the Nile, Neptune, still again, is the significator. But it is nevertheless true that in our present day, we find more highly attuned spirits, who can respond to the vibration of the higher ethers, in which Neptune works, than in our previous beef-eating, practical era, when no one but outlandish creatures ever thought of taking their feelings out to look at them, as children dig up seeds to see whether they have sprouted. Every drawing room in the world has seen the spectacle, so common now that we do not even notice it, of cultured people, examining their souls in public, and putting them under the searchlight and the microscope in a way to make the judicious grieve.

Neptune stimulates the nerve centers, and works through the glands. It also controls that little known function, the lymphatic circulation. It is said to work through the sympathetic nervous system,

and the subconscious. It is feminine, receptive, and may be called a passive magnetic force. Neptune enlarges sympathy, and intensifies the capacity for both pain and pleasure. This planet produces a very sentimental state. Uranus is not sentimental. Uranus is drastic and blunt, while Neptune is subtle and illusive. It has a certain picture-making power, but this power is not to produce a reproduction of life, but to show how life is, or would be, if the idea in the mind of the artist were true.

In this it may vary, from the painter who sees life as all triangles and squares, bounded by straight lines, to the painter who sees it all light, or all curved elongated lines. Life is neither one nor the other, but that makes no difference to the Neptunian artist; he shows how it would be, were his premise true. This brings me to the sad truth that Neptune, unless working

in very high egos, has little interest in, or regard for, what the world calls truth. It is what truth *ought* to be that interests it. Consequently in literature, Neptune tends to reproduce extremes, with satire, realism which is not real, or poetry. All Neptunian art and literature, as I have said, argues from a false premise. It is akin to solecism. This may be a very delightful premise indeed, such as the constant triumph of virtue over vice, shown in the "moral movie." Or, it may suppose, that as in the age of chivalry, knights go out a-hunting for some lovely lady to adore. Don Quixote was a typical Neptunian.

Yet Neptunians are as great, in their sphere of starting new reforms and new movements, as any people in the world, because such things must be started on the assumption of something. Take the New Thought idea, "There is no evil." Clearly,

this is an assumption of an untrue, but ideal, premise.

Thus we see that Neptune is akin to the world of shadows. Its ideals and ideas are like giant shadows, cast upon a sheet, which reflect, yet distort, life. They distort life, because they are out of focus. For we say that focus and proportion are not akin to Neptune. These characteristics are Uranian. Neptune is fourth dimensional; this explains why its people may see life at a different angle. Uranus hates sham and humbug. Neptune rather likes them, because they, like Neptune, "are such stuff as dreams are made of." How the Neptunian hates you, when you wake him from his dream!

This different point of departure from the rest of the world explains the fact that a horoscope with Neptune prominent often gives a great, an all-consuming loneliness. It is so hard to explain to the other fellow

what we are trying to do. Because often, the sincere and high-minded Neptunian, unless he is gifted with dramatic oratory, one of Neptune's gifts, has a great deal of trouble explaining himself, if by the merest chance, he really wishes to do so. Often he simply, "doesn't bother." Perhaps he has an inner hunch that those to whom he should explain, if he did, are on another turn of the spiral, and would not understand anyhow. This gives the peculiar spiritual isolation, even when this isolation, so typical of Neptune, does not appear in the material life.

The dream quality of experiences which come under Neptune is one of the oddest things about it. I do not refer here to Neptune, as we usually speak of it, as the planet of dreams. I rather call your attention to the feeling of living in a dream, the feeling that the impossible is happening, which we experience when under a strong

Neptune influence, either by transit or progression. For the effects of transit and progression cannot be separated to any great extent, with this planet, since its motion is so slow.

But the vampirizing influence of Neptune is as well known as the inspiring influence. It makes us limp, white, helpless. It decays us, and it deadens us. It takes our blood, and it takes our courage, even as it sometimes takes our liberty. For all know that Neptune is the great jailer of the Zodiac, ruling as it does the twelfth house, the house of bondage. But also, this house, as well as being the house of bondage, is the house of loosening of bonds. And so Neptune is the "Angel of the Presence," which releases us, as well as the jailer who confines us. And in the next age, when Neptune really comes into its own, it will be as the "Angel of the Presence," the representative of the Christ.

CHAPTER TWO

ANALYSIS OF NEPTUNE

I FIND that key words are often of great value in explaining the planets. Of course, the two different phases of the planet may sometimes require two key words. Therefore, in the case of Neptune, I use two key words. They are, *Inspiration*, and *Chaos*.

Neptune unlocks the super realms, and they may be either good or bad. It penetrates the akasha, and taps the world records of past and future events. I believe it is the power understood as *Yoga*, which we know has been called by some destructive as well as constructive. In its best phase, Neptune touches a cosmic optimism. It is metaphysical, emotional, and universal. It rules brotherhood and communism.

Neptune rules nebulous conditions, intrigue, secret matters, detective work, deception, mystery, mysticism, clairvoyance, initiation, dreams, visions. It rules the Navy and water, water trips, sailing, hydro-aeroplanes, aviation, trap-doors. It rules oils, rubber, drugs, anaesthetics, perfumes, gases and poisons; stringed instruments, all great luxuries and peculiar flavors, bohemian parties and picnics. It rules the rare and exotic as well as the unwholesome. It governs nudity. It rules nervous trouble, and invalids, and has to do with hunchbacks, queer sicknesses and insanity.

It governs jails and jailers, as well as prisoners. It rules hospitals, and all who work in them. It has to do with fish and marine life of all kinds. Also all industries connected with the ocean are ruled by it. It is the significator of junk men and junk heaps, and also rules second-hand dealers.

It has a great deal to do with scientific advancement, the study of natural history, welfare work, the slums, drunkards and the lost souls of the world. Rules unwholesome sex, the pleasure craze, jazz, advanced stage effects, impressionist art, all *outré* schools of art or literary work of any kind, and poets. Color, white or pastel shades, and this is sometimes given as indigo. It rules mediums and séances. It has no day of the week. It rules the sign Pisces, where the Sun is each year from February 22 to March 22, roughly.

Old astrologers gave the rulership of Pisces to Jupiter, and some moderns continue thus. But probably there is a certain kinship between Jupiter and Neptune. I believe that Neptune rules Pisces. There is that analogy between the two which seems to make them of one flesh. This is the same kinship which we find between Sagittarius and Jupiter, and between the

Sun and Leo. Neptune must also thus rule the feet, which are ruled by Pisces.

I have made a detailed study of the action of Neptune, in different departments of life. I feel that it is of most benefit when it is in good aspect to some practical planet like Mars, or Saturn. In fact, all the aspects which it makes are vital. The question of aspect, with house and sign position, is rather fully dealt with in many astrological books now.

When Neptune is placed in any sign it adds a peculiar flexibility and softness to that part of the body ruled by the sign. For instance, in Gemini, it gives the most flexible hands in the world, and also very soft hands. It may also give great charm to that part of the body. Neptune in Taurus, when prominent and well aspected, gives a flexible throat, and a charming voice. The softness of which I spoke, comes out in the Taurus liability to sore

throat and cough. Neptune in Aries gives a flexible mentality. In affliction the mind may be too flexible.

Placed in the houses of the horoscope, we find that the house where it is situated will attain much prominence for good, if the planet is well aspected, much prominence in a bad way, if badly aspected. In the tenth house, it casts a ray over the whole chart, and gives a peculiar life, perhaps that of a great reformer, and perhaps a trickster.

In affliction with the Sun or Moon, some of the bad qualities will come out. But where the horoscope is very good, good will follow evil. Good aspects to Mars give practical spiritual power. Bad aspects to Mars, a tearing down force. Good aspects to Uranus give occult and astrological ability, while the bad give pessimism, and sometimes despair. Good aspects to Mercury spiritualize and raise the vibrations, while

bad make subject to deception, or make deceivers. Good aspects to Jupiter make great fortunes, and bad make money slip in and slip out. Good aspects to Saturn help the nativity much, and make practice come up to theory. Bad aspects to Saturn give a desire for solitude, and a disgust with the world. Good aspects to Venus give art and music, with high ideals of love; but bad aspects give the same, with poor results.

NEPTUNE IN DEPARTMENTS OF LIFE

PERSONAL APPEARANCE

The eye is most prominent. It is sometimes very puffy, and large with an extra ring around the iris. Very fair complexion. Head rather flat at sides. The body sometimes short, fat and a trifle flabby. It may give a shifty look, or a very dreamy

look. It lines and wrinkles the countenance excessively, without reason, but sometimes gives what we call "baby face," and beauty.

ENVIRONMENT

Unusual—perhaps in home where strange conditions prevail. May be family scandal, or it may be that the family are like leeches, and suck the blood of the native, as in money, or vitality. Neptune may also give highly musical, spiritual or scientific environment.

PARENTAGE

Adopted; step-father or mother; left with grandparents; illegitimate; parents in jail, workhouse, insane asylum, institution. Foundling; parents disappear; parents disgraced, or deformed. Passed through several hands in youth; mysterious birth, outcast, drunkard, or one who takes drugs.

Parents abnormal or criminal, child not born to reputed parents, but may be a changeling. Child substituted by mother to please father in another land, and to trick him into thinking it is his own. Child born to nun or monk; parents helpless; invalid or tubercular. Parents mediums. Parents very bohemian, gypsies, anarchists, communists, believers in free love. Parents tramps, itinerants, sailors or in navy; detectives, bootleggers, welfare workers, advanced scientists, great travelers, philosophers, inventors, occultists, prophets, or musicians. These indications should be used in all ways. Squeeze the horoscope dry of all it will tell you.

HEALTH

Rules nervous conditions, poisons and gases, gradual decay of members or organs. Governs strange conditions very hard to diagnose or cure; trances, unwhole-

some sex conditions, degeneracy, insanity, tubercular conditions. Rules peculiar growths.

MONEY

We now take up a point often stressed, and much misunderstood. That is, Neptune and money. The case is usually dismissed by saying that Neptune in the second house gives either great confusion, trickery and loss, or money thru bonds, corporations, great monopolies, the liquid element, music, acting, as in pantomime and circus work, or by occult means.

This list may be expanded, but I have studied much to find a basic idea. It is this: Neptune in the second house means a way of livelihood apart from sale and barter of commodities, in the ordinary sense, at home. By commodities I refer to ordinary work, professional or otherwise, as a commodity.

Neptune as it refers to finance means a more or less intangible way of living, not easily seen by the public. It is a peculiar fact, and one which I have never seen mentioned, that many successful reigning sovereigns, those who keep their jobs, I mean, have Neptune in the second house. This is particularly true of English kings, queens and emperors. In this list we include King Edward Seventh, Queen Mary, Queen Victoria Ena of Spain, Elizabeth the Great, Prince Henry of England, the Queen of Holland. Also the French war president, no longer a ruler—I refer to Poincaré.

In the case of England this may be said: England rules the waves; perhaps this is symbolical. At any rate it is a fact that we find this in the chart of many of the very rich.

In the case of Queen Elizabeth the Great of England, we find that she engaged, in

her own right, in the slave trade; she herself sold monopolies and engaged in commerce. Note that Elizabeth had Sun opposition Neptune.

MARRIAGE

We see a great many horoscopes with Neptune in the seventh house. This is commonly said to mean divorce; however, this does not always happen. It may mean death, or it sometimes means that there is a difference of age, nationality, estate or station between the native and partner. It may mean an invalid or deformed wife or husband, or a musical, or very talented one indeed; a sailor, mystic or dreamer—one with strange powers. If afflicted it shows trouble.

LOVE AFFAIRS

The planet is not good when it rules love affairs, unless very well aspected. It gives

dreams of an ideal mate, but often little realization. Sometimes platonic ideals, and a platonic marriage. In the case of Bessie Leo, Neptune made both marriages mental, not physical, unions. It has in love a peculiarly tantalizing effect. Good aspects to Neptune will produce love affairs which involve interior states of ecstasy or bliss, and great romance. This planet favors backstairs alliances, or love affairs with inferiors, or often secret affairs. It over-emphasizes and exaggerates sex. It may, however, mean love affairs with men or women of the best type indicated by Neptune, but not often.

OCCUPATIONS

Doctor, scientist, musician, poet, actor, social worker, sailor, detective, bootlegger, bartender, wet nurse; oil business, publicity, bond salesman, corporation man, nurse, jailer, in travel bureau, shipping

business, radio, aviation (as dirigible). Giver or maker of anæsthetics or poisons, or drink containing a sedative. Keeper of dive, exporter, clown, contortionist; diver, pirate, and submarine worker. Worker in film industry. Circus performer, artist, tobacco dealer, dealer in tea and coffee.

CHARACTER

Where Neptune rules character as when rising, it gives a disappearing personality. I mean, that you never can tell *what* the native will do, or where he will be. It *may change all the other things in the horoscope*; it gives a twist. It often makes the native intuitive for good or for bad. Frequently it only makes him "wild." What we call in slang phrase "wild women" usually have Neptune rising. Yet this often gives very great charm.

Neptune rising often inclines to display

and love of luxury, however. Louis 14th, the Grand Monarch, was very deceptive. He had Neptune rising in Scorpio, Moon in Leo, conjunction Venus, opposition Saturn in Aquarius, square Jupiter in Scorpio.

George the Fourth of England is an interesting example of Neptunian self-deception, for he had Sun conjunction Neptune in Leo in his eleventh house, ruling hopes and wishes. His Moon was conjunction Jupiter, opposition Mars, showing the motive of self-glorification. By dint of saying that he had headed a charge at Waterloo, he persuaded himself that he really had done so.

DEATH

It indicates death by poison, drowning, gas, treachery, tuberculosis, dropsy; queer diseases; being buried alive, or with

mystery, secrecy, and so forth, as the death of the Czar Nicholas of Russia.

MENTALITY

This planet shows a very ingenious, scheming mind, or one of great idealism and flexibility. It gives an inventive power, particularly when it aspects Uranus. Even in a small good aspect to Mercury it sometimes indicates lies and deception. Sad experience prevents me from trusting a person whose Mercury is square to Neptune. That mind is as tricky as Puck. Poisoners sometimes have it in the third, but also philanthropists and poets.

HUMOR

In the question of humor we find that Neptune has a quaint tricky, whimsical effect. Artemus Ward, our American humorist, had Mercury in the third sextile Neptune (*Notable Nativities* 127); Moon

and Neptune rise in Pisces. Lincoln had Sagittarius rising, with Neptune and Saturn there.

CONVENTIONALITY

Neptune ignores conventionality, while Uranus defies it. Neptune is given to an idea of a vague, formless Utopia.

TACT

Neptune is one of the most tactful of planets when it accompanies a good Venus. I know a sweet lady, with her Sun square Neptune, and Jupiter and Venus good, who can wheedle information out of any one, without his knowing it.

FRIENDSHIP

We find that Neptune often rules uncommon, exotic friendship, perhaps with shut-ins, criminals, or with deceptive

persons, or freaks. Perhaps with great travelers, scientists, musicians or artists; tramps, anarchists, men without a country, occultists, or people who appear and disappear. But it may signify great friendships, on a very high plane.

TRAVEL

In travel Neptune favors the water, or tramping trips with little aim. Some very democratic ways of travel, such as the trips of societies, like the German *Wandervögel*, or "Youth Movement," which are very Neptunian. Our own "Yosian Brotherhood," of which my friend J. Otis Swift is the head, is much under Neptune. It is a walking and tramping club, with Nature study. Mr. Swift has a very Neptunian horoscope, with Sun in Pisces, and Neptune and the watery element prominent.

PLEASURE

Neptune inclines to love of pleasure in double doses, and to danger of drink, drugs and sex in too much prominence. Its presence in Leo caused the pleasure craze.

ANARCHY

Some anarchists have Neptune very prominent, with Neptune usually afflicted by Mars. Uranus and Mars are often in aspect. See *Notable Nativities* 386.

DREAMS

Neptune gives visions, and true dreams sometimes, particularly when in the ninth house, and well aspected. This is often the case with a chart where there is much water in the horoscope.

Concerning day dreams, and building castles in the air, this planet is the chief significator. "Pretending" comes under

this head, which includes all kinds of pretending, pretending an invisible companion, pretending a string of chairs is a train of cars, and what not.

RELIGION

In religion Neptune rules emotionalism, and its off-shoots. It signifies revivalists, like Billy Sunday. Moody and Sankey, the hymn-singing revivalists of the last century, must have both had it strong and prominent. It rules the Salvation Army, and indeed General Booth had three planets in Pisces. But I think Mars must be well placed also in the horoscopes of leaders. Neptune rules magic and voodoo, tantra, white and black, monks and nuns, advanced and illuminated souls, fanatics, martyrs, and the members of some religious orders. It has a great deal to do with Masonry, although this may not be called a religion. Neptune causes stigmata,

miracles, and religious mania. It had a great deal to do with the Inquisition. Many Popes have had Neptune in square or conjunction of Mars, especially the fighting ones of the Middle Ages.

WEATHER

In weather Neptune is damp and warm, it rules heavy clouds, fogs, floods, hurricanes, freak weather, earthquakes, tidal waves, and warm weather.

CHILDREN

Neptune in the fifth house, or influencing fifth house affairs, often denies children, or gives only one, who dies. Sometimes may give queer, or talented children. May give adopted children, or step-children. This position sometimes gives a great love of children and none to the native.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

In national affairs, Neptune again rules two extremes, since it signifies monopolies, and also great philanthropies, and democratic interests. It refers to overseas matters, shipping as well as aviation. It governs national hospitals and veterans' affairs, such as pensions. It refers to slaves, black and white, and the slave traffic, opium and the opium traffic, immigration, and great water projects. It also refers to national prisons, as well as hospitals, and to national cemeteries. It governs West Point, and the Navy. It rules the care and supervision of the American Indians in the United States. It also has to do with religious disturbances, and race riots, as well as lynchings. Neptune rules the sea deeps, and also rules prohibition and its enforcement, and its enforcers. It governs the Weather Bureau,

and all the scientific departments of the Government, as well as the Secret Service and the Diplomatic Service. It rules investigations of all kind.

CHAPTER THREE

NEPTUNE IN PROGRESSION AND TRANSIT

ONE of the important points in working out the influence of Neptune in transit and progression is the right consideration of the radical chart. You must first get to know Neptune, and to find out what possibilities it has. Then, as you interpret it in progressions, weave it in with the radical.

Where it is bad in the radical, then bad progressions may bring out terrible disasters. Where it is good in the radical, then good may follow evil. But always expect, even in good aspect, some very out-of-the-ordinary development. Read over all the basic things which I have said it will cause, and then know that these must

be mixed in careful way with the radical chart, and its interpretation.

I feel that Neptune usually brings some crisis. Also, that the good directions work in such a way that we are tantalized by them. It is always uncertain, and very worrying. Often two kinds of events come, both good and bad. It is long drawn out in its action, and seems to partake, in bad aspect, of the nature of Saturn. But at the same time, some of the most charming things can happen. Almost always it inhibits some power.

Sometimes it gives some sort of a ghastly event. The treachery which it brings, and the false situations are one of its worst features. But in good aspect, it may give the lovely romance and the wonderful trip. Perhaps halcyon days will come. Or the native may get a great run of luck, something quite beyond expectations.

It is outside the possibility of this small

work to go in detail into the effect of Neptune in Progression and Transit. But one point must be stressed, and that is untouched so far, the question as to whether Neptune is retrograde or direct. There is nothing so devastating in my opinion, as a retrograde Neptune. This applies, where it is retrograde at birth, in directions and in transit. When retrograde, a sort of decay seems to occur.

I advise the student to study, in "*The Progressed Horoscope*" the detailed effect of Neptune there. However, do not read it bit by bit, but read *all about it*. Then break it up for yourself. You will find that there is much said about such aspects as, Sun sextile Neptune, as different from Sun trine Neptune. There really is little distinction here, but the matter is all good. Get Neptune in your consciousness in the same way that most of us have Saturn.

As regards Neptune transits, I feel they

mark off important periods of life. Look back over your own, and study them. See whether in your life, Neptune goes over your Ascendent. If it does, *beware*. I speak whereof I know, for at almost the exact time I am writing this Neptune is stationary on my Ascendent.

This transit of Neptune gives a certain masquerade character to the life. It seems to take away your personality, and force you into false situations. Also it will make you old, at least for a while. And it will tie you, and deceive you.

Now, I know of numerous cases where very fine things have come at this time. But I know not, as I do in my own case, what inner trouble may have happened as well, or even what outer. Also the transit of Neptune over your Mid-heaven—beware of this. It may bring a great boom, if you are a Cecil Rhodes, but it may show treach-

ery. It may also give inspiration in art and music.

So study for yourself these Neptune transits and aspects, and use them with what I have said in the body of the book. Study Neptune each day in the ephemeris, and see what aspects the Moon, Sun, and other planets make to it. Then watch what happens. Thus we learn.

CHAPTER FOUR

NEPTUNE THE SPIRAL

As Neptune progresses through the signs, and makes aspects, great periods occur, which merit special study. There was one of these at the time when Neptune from Aries squared Uranus from Cancer. We have been able to study these people, born at that time, and we find while there were some rare souls, that if Sun or Moon were afflicted then some very weird manifestations came.

There was another great period when Neptune and Jupiter in Cancer, opposed Uranus and Mars in Capricorn. This gave birth to our flappers and our child prodigies.

The next was at the beginning of the

war, when Neptune and Uranus were in opposition. Just what this will give when the children born at this period become adults we cannot yet say. Of a certainty then, Neptune in Leo gave us wild pleasure, strange love, and wild children. Also it pulled the Sun back by force once a year, according to law of man, and, with its "twist" of Neptune in Leo, gave us daylight saving time. It set it ahead like Joshua, also once a year. And at each time, at least in the United States, we did this violence to the Solar orb about the time Neptune was stationary.

Another strange time came, when we had Neptune in Leo, square Saturn in Scorpio, and opposition Jupiter in Aquarius. What happened in the world then was great earth upheavals, and the worst year the Red Cross in the United States had ever had. What will happen in the future to egos born then, we can only guess.

But now the influence of Neptune in Leo is about to wane, and let us hope that the children, society, and the movies, will gradually go back to normal. This has given us such an exaggeration that we have even forgotten the good qualities which we know Neptune has. And poor Leo has anticked like a clown.

It has been said that casualness is one of the distinguishing characteristics of the present era. It is modish to be casual, and it is mid-Victorian to be careful and punctilious. In all things this tendency is shown: we wear casual clothes, when we wear clothes at all; we speak in a casual manner; we wander casually about the world, embarking for Southampton after the opera in evening dress, with no sign of luggage, as if we were dropping in to Pierre's for supper; we take off casually in an airplane for Japan; we entertain in casual fashion, and the more casual the

smarter; we love casually, we marry casually, and we divorce casually; we change time casually; I may almost say, we die casually.

Now, to me, one of the important things about Neptune is this very casualness. It acts so imperceptibly, in such diverse and unseen ways, that it is one of the modern indications of this same casualness. Casualness is at its highest point in smart society ruled by Leo. Now, to be casual is often to be vague, and to be irresponsible, to make trouble for others, to be selfish. Neptune, even in good aspect, is vague, diverse, puzzling. It often makes a great deal of trouble for the practical soul who has to deal with the Neptunian in the everyday affairs of life. And, much as this may pain the ardent admirer of the planet, Neptune is selfish. Not that it usually means to be selfish, but it just is. It is sacrificial at times, but the sacrifice is

often ill timed, unwished for, and not well planned and carried out, or it does no good.

When we study Neptune as representative of the pairs of opposites, then we begin to see closer into its nature. It is always extreme, denoting the most harrowing humiliation, and the greatest display, and a worship and popular success almost amounting to adoration. It is ascetic, and it is voluptuous, and in all things it denies itself.

This is partly due to the inverted, infiltrating, percolating action of Neptune. Uranus acts by explosion, but Neptune acts by infiltration. That is one reason why people said for so long that it did not act. It did act, always, but the result was usually attributed to something else. Or it caused an event so secret and mysterious that the native did not know it had happened, at least until long afterward. The loss of a property, for instance, which did

not become known for years. The decay of a reputation, while its owner went on apparently unscathed; the unfaithfulness of a husband, covered up for a long period. These may all happen, and yet be laughed to scorn by the very person to whom they are happening. I have known of many such cases.

Late writers on Neptune have agreed in giving it an analogy to the Moon. This, to my mind, is true. Then we would go further and say, has it phases, or changes, like the Moon? No, it would be fantastic indeed, to attribute phases to Neptune. But—*it has spirals—and these same spirals are like the Moon's phases.* Therefore we have a key into its denying itself, for the Neptunian, on one of the upper curves of the spiral, can look down, from his height of spiritual illumination, art, science and music, to the poor soul yet half a dozen turns down on the spiral, struggling with

drink, drugs, and degradation. And therefore we get this key, which solves the mystery of why some people speak of Neptune with bated breath and reverential tone, while others consign it to outer darkness.

For some years, it has been reasonably well established that Uranus represented the Sun in astrology. It has been called the Super-Solar orb. But as far as I know, it has remained for my friend Valentia Straiton to call Neptune the Super-Lunar orb. And this is indeed a well-coined phrase, and a very expressive one. We are now entering the *air age*, and we are beginning to understand Uranus. We can handle Uranus, and we have, in great measure, tamed and chained that giant. It rules aviation, in a great degree, but Neptune has a great part, and this part is particularly aviation over water. This all accords with the analogy of Neptune and the Moon.

But the point I wish to make, is one that was brought out years ago, in an article in "*Modern Astrology*," but little noticed. It here referred to Neptune as "The Striving Point." This is what I believe it is, and I believe that Neptune will be to the next age what Uranus is to this age. We poor souls with an afflicted Neptune, or even we souls with a prominent Neptune, will come back, five thousand years from now, with a Neptune which brings good fortune, like Jupiter. What frail things some of us are, with our sensitiveness, our masquerade costumes, as if life were one great mask ball! How we hide, and we weep, and we suffer. Then we will be the *understanders*, and not the *misunderstood*. For a thousand years are as but a day.

And so, to refer again to "*The Celestial Ship of the North*," it is to Neptune, as Miss Straiton says, that we must look, in bringing forth the next age, for our next

age will be the Age of Angels, and Neptune gives the power to commune with the Angels. Miss Straiton has said: "Neptune is the midwife of the ancient Serpent Fire, and will not be operative in group activity on earth for some years to come. Neptune is the Super-Moon, ruler of the spiritual world."

It has often been said, and reiterated, that the ancients did not know Uranus and Neptune. But I am of those who think they did, but perhaps under other names, for there are tables to be found by the patient seeker after knowledge, which seem to point to the fact that Uranus and Neptune, and yet another great outer planet, were known at least to the very skilled in past times. The Chaldeans, and the Indians certainly had what may be called an ephemeris of the bodies. But undoubtedly they were not called by these names; in fact perhaps they were so sacred that they were

never mentioned, or perhaps never mentioned aloud. And so, because we do not find them blazoned everywhere, why deny that they knew them? Would it not be better to say that they were on that turn of the spiral from whence they could be seen, and that on the next turn they were lost, and that we have only now found them again?

The character of "Luminosity," of which we read in "*Patanjali's Yoga Aphorisms*," is one of the most intriguing and appealing things about that appealing and intriguing planet. The Hindus call this a something by which we can become invisible, or shine with light. I feel that Neptune rules the pupil of the eye. This seems to me one of the most charming of Neptune attributes. It is, I believe, that light by which the Master can tell and recognize his disciple, which shines around

the head of the Saints, and is the ray of Neptune, in its highest manifestation.

And so we see that we have climbed up, part way, in our spiral, and that some of us are looking down, and that with that third eye, which we all possess, but cannot all use, we see our younger brothers and sisters, lower down than we. And because we have climbed, we feel a divine discontent, and we burn to lift them up. Yet with what futility we work, since we have passed the use of the ordinary weapons of force, and barter, and have not attained to the perfect use of the new age weapons of spirit. And thus we seem to make an effort without a result, and perhaps we are called dreamers. Yet all life progresses according to the spiral, and though we may not seem to succeed, yet a victory mighty is ours, because we have tried.

THE END.



S0-FUG-294

